000 inexhaustible energy had reduced me to a physical and nervous wreck—and I was the younger man.

861 Near Mukalla to the east beyond the landing ground at
346 Riyan is the collegiate town of Ghil-Ba-Wazir, so called by
249 me because it seemed to consist of nothing but schools sur-
439 rounded by a few fields of Hammumi tobacco which normally was exported to Egypt via Aden. Primary schools and a large
871 State Intermediate School with a considerable boarding establishment catered for the youth of Mukalla and the more
[875] advanced pupils from all over the State. The masters, who were local men or Sudanese on contract, always left me with an impression of keenness, competence and contentment. From Ghil-Ba-Wazir the more promising pupils went on to Aden College or the Technical Institute in Aden, or to a Secondary School in the Sudan, depending on the inclination of the parents or of the Mukalla Government if they were financing the boys' further education.

• 315 Up in the vast open spaces of the northern limits of the State, survey parties of Petroleum Concessions Ltd. moved farther and farther into territory which was practically unknown to Europeans, on their ceaseless quest for oil, spurred on by recent increases in the cost of their prospecting licence. As these parties pushed their way northwards so did similar parties from the Arabian-American Oil Company at Dhahran on the Persian Gulf in Saudi Arabia move steadily southward with their portable drilling rigs drawn by great tractors and their air-conditioned living caravans, across the great yellow sand dunes of the Ruba-al-Khali.

712 The frontier became of considerable importance, much more
312 so than it had ever been before and we found it advisable to
626 exercise a greater degree of control over our tribes than had been necessary or desirable in the past. The Sultan was concerned about the peace of these northern marches, and, fearing an act of aggression, felt that steps should be taken to safeguard the well at Thamud, the only available water for many miles around. This was done by building a fort, constructing a landing strip and flying in a garrison of soldiers of the Hadhrami Bedouin Legion. Later, similar measures were taken over to

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
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701 independent commanders in out-of-the-way places. In a serious crisis the Commandant of the Legion and the Military Assistant would be flown up to the nearest Post and the Commandant would take over the general control of the situation, sure in the knowledge that he could call on the Military Assistant, an experienced soldier, for advice at any time. Behind them both there was Hugh Boustead, capable of dealing with almost any situation single-handed, and behind him was Aden and the Royal Air Force ready and willing to help at any time. Everything was in good shape and I never had any qualms about our ability to deal with interlopers on the Saudi frontier.

648 In 1955 Her Majesty's Government formally declared the
[315] co-ordinates of the line south of which they would not tolerate the unrestricted movement of foreign subjects, and it was not long after this announcement was made to the Saudi Government that an American oil-survey party operating in two sections with an armed Saudi escort, trespassed in two separate places. They were located from the air and in no time the Military Assistant with an adequate escort from the Hadhrami Bedouin Legion, had moved by air and Land-Rover to intercept them. The error of their ways was pointed out to them and they withdrew promptly with their escort, leaving their expensive equipment behind in spite of being told they could take it with them. The escort had second thoughts and returned and were promptly taken into custody and disarmed without a shot being fired and later sent to Jedda by a civil Air Line. As far as I know the equipment is still in the desert; it certainly was in 1936 when I drove that way, and it was already showing very clearly the effects of sun, sand and the bedouin.

648 It was in the same year, 1955, that the Buraimi business in
669 Trucial Oman where the Sheikhdom of Abu Dhabi meets the
[181] Sultanate of Muscat and Oman, upset King Saud. Stolen fruit is always so much sweeter than that which is got by legitimate means and in this case both *hasad* and *sharf* were involved—"jealousy" and "honour", those two curses of Arabia which have kept the peoples and the countries divided for generations and generations. The King showed his irritation with Great Britain by sending arms to the bedouin in the northern areas

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
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of Consultative Committee which I would like to see set up in the United Kingdom to provide for the proper consideration of important questions relating to similar Colonial or Commonwealth territories. I prefer the latter term, which by virtue of their size, geographical situation, or economic condition could not in the foreseeable future expect to be granted full Dominion status.

If the change in the Yemen takes the form of a well-established liberal and democratic Government either in the form of a constitutional monarchy or, indeed, of a republic, which I think unlikely, then there may well be a tendency for some of the Protectorate States in close proximity to the frontier to join their co-religionists and brother Arabs. To what extent such a move should be encouraged or could be prevented will depend on the circumstances then prevailing and would be influenced by the magnitude and sincerity of the movement and our own relations with the Rulers and with the Yemen. It is certain, however, that the achievement of Federation within the Protectorate would militate against any piece-meal hiving off of Protectorate States and would put the Protectorate in a much stronger position *vis-à-vis* the Yemen.

315 656 The discovery of oil is the second important factor in the future political development of the Protectorate and the changes which oil would bring about must not be underestimated. At my suggestion negotiations were opened with the States with the object of persuading them to pool, for their mutual benefit, any revenue that might be derived from oil. The allocation of such revenue would be the responsibility of a Board which would be predominantly Arab in composition. At the present time it is not known whether the surface indications will warrant the enormous expenditure without which drilling operations cannot be undertaken, nor is it known in which of the twenty-five States drilling will take place, if and when a decision is made to proceed to this stage of the operation. No State is being asked to share a certainty, but all the States are being asked to safeguard the economic interests of their people. The proposed oil agreement is in itself a form of economic federation, and political federation would follow

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closely on the heels of the implementation of the economic bond. It is my view that these negotiations, which were still continuing when I left Aden, should be pressed to a successful conclusion. I use the word "pressed" advisedly because human nature being what it is there may well be selfish and short-sighted Rulers who, with the example of Kuwait, Qatar, and Bahrein before their eyes, would be unwilling to share what is, after all, at this stage only the possibility of potential wealth with their neighbours. It would be intolerable if one or two States became fabulously wealthy while the rest of the Protectorate continued to depend almost for their very existence on the bounty of the United Kingdom taxpayer.

In a startlingly short time after the discovery of oil in commercial quantities, assuming that the revenue therefrom belonged to the Protectorate as a whole and not to individual States, I should expect to see the States federate, if they had not already done so. Then would come further swift political development in a country which would be no less able financially to undertake the responsibilities of Dominion status than is Ghana. Integration with the Colony is an obvious step on the road to Dominion status. Aden, with its magnificent harbour and its 5,000,000-ton Refinery, is the only natural outlet for the oil on the coast of South Arabia, and it is the obvious capital for a future Dominion comprising the present Colony and Protectorate. In June 1933 Sir Samuel Hoare, at that time Secretary of State for India, said in the House of Commons:

"The reasons which suggest that Aden [he was referring to what is now the Colony] should not remain linked with India under the new constitution are, that it is an area geographically remote from India; that it would not naturally fit into the new federation; that it is already to some extent under Imperial control, *and that it is inseparable in practice from the Aden Protectorate*, which has already passed wholly out of Indian control."

I have never seen any reason to disagree with these words, in particular those which I have italicised, and I have never subscribed to the view that it would be possible or desirable